

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for total consideration given the present application. Claims 1-3, 6, 10, 13, 14, 16, 17, 19, and 20 were pending prior to the Advisory Action. Claim 1 has been amended and claim 10 has been canceled through this Reply. Therefore, claims 1-3, 6, 13, 14, 16, 17, 19, and 20 are pending. Claims 1, 2, 3, 6, 14, 16, 17, and 20 are independent. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Applicant appreciates that claims 2, 3, 6, 14, 16, 17, 19, and 20 are indicated to be allowable. Applicant further appreciates that claim 10 is indicated to define allowable subject matter. Claim 1 has been amended to include allowable subject matter. Therefore, claims 1-3, 6, 13, 14, 16, 17, 19, and 20 should be allowed.

FORM 1449 ACKNOWLEDGMENT REQUESTED

It is noted that Applicant has not yet received initialed copy(ies) of the PTO-1449 filed on November 13, 2006 for the present application. Applicant respectfully requests that such form be provided.

Conclusion

In view of the above remarks, it is believed that claims are allowable.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact D. Richard Anderson Reg. No. 40,439 at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.14; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: October 25, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

By 

D. Richard Anderson

Attachment:

Registration No.: 40,439

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

8110 Gatehouse Road

Suite 100 East

P.O. Box 747

Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747

(703) 205-8000

Attorney for Applicant